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DCI/IC-76-1128
15 September 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy to the DCI for the Intelligence Community
FROM : Major General [REDACTED]
Special Assistant to the D/DCI/IC
SUBJECT : Conference with Sam Hoskinson re SSCI
Problem Areas

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1. [REDACTED] and I attended a conference today called by Sam Hoskinson to discuss the possible need for a White House/NSC Staff coordinating element to deal with problems arising re responses to requests from the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence. Also present were [REDACTED] of CIA; Tom Latimer and Bob Andrews (legal officer) from OSD, Roger Kirk and a legal officer from State, a lawyer from Justice, John Matheny of the NSC Staff and Joseph Dennon of the Intelligence Oversight Board Staff.

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2. Hoskinson indicated that General Scowcroft and Bill Hyland were interested in NSC Staff involvement.

3. My pitch was that as senior adviser to the President on intelligence matters, the DCI should be responsible for coordination on matters relating to the SSCI and the DCI could obtain policy guidance as needed.

4. Latimer felt that NSC/White House involvement was important since the basic need for an Administration position on such matters as the approach to charters, and some of the problems are going to be outside the jurisdiction of the DCI. As an example of the latter, he cited that within DoD matters relating to the kinds of material to be reported to the Intelligence Oversight Board are being handled by the General Counsel and Inspector General, and Mr. Ellsworth's staff has no involvement. [In my view, DoD wants to avoid any indication that the SSCI is being handled differently from any other Congressional committee.] Latimer stressed that White House policy guidance was needed before any comments were provided as to the effectiveness of operations under E.O. 11905.

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5. Roger Kirk indicated State felt the problems would be wider than those which would come under DCI purview.

6. I stressed that effective coordination would involve an all or nothing approach. To be effective, a coordinating machinery would have to involve personnel who would give it their priority attention, would have to receive copies of all correspondence coming from the SSCI, and would of necessity, have to review such correspondence to identify matters on which coordination would be needed and on which policy guidance was necessary. I cited some of the problems which arose during the Church and Pike investigations from the long delays involved in getting White House Staff responses to queries and to requests for clearance on documents.

7. No decisions were made, and Hoskinson indicated he would be back in touch with the group.

25X1 8. The only action which resulted was agreement that [redacted] should deal with the other General Counsels in working up a response to the SSCI request that it be provided reports comparable to those submitted to the Intelligence Oversight Board. CIA is in a somewhat different position from the other organizations in this regard since during his coordination hearing, Mr. Knoche agreed he would provide such information to the committee.

9. Recommendation. It is recommended that:

a. A brief report on the 15 September meeting be provided the DCI at his morning staff meeting on 16 September.

b. Query be raised with the DCI as to the effort he may desire be made to retain responsibility in his staff for the coordination which will be involved as the SSCI effort continues to expand, and as a House committee comes into being, and to assume responsibility for identifying matters on which White House policy guidance is needed.

[Execution of such responsibility could well become a full-time job for a small IC staff. If the views of Defense, State and NSC representatives at the 15 September meeting reflect those of their superiors, it can be expected there will be opposition to having the DCI in this role.]

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MEMORANDUM FOR:	<div data-bbox="613 714 1000 850"></div> <div data-bbox="1039 735 1258 829"><u>16 Sept</u></div>
<div data-bbox="341 829 1274 1270">AS PER OUR CONVERSATION, HERE IS MY MEMO ON YESTERDAY'S MEETING WITH HOSKINSON</div> <div data-bbox="755 1186 1226 1417"></div>	
<div data-bbox="860 1522 933 1554">Date</div>	

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